

To: E-OHPSCA2713.EBSA
Subject: Thank you for supporting birth control access for all women
Date: Thursday, August 04, 2011 1:23:41 PM

Dear Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary of Health & Human Services,

I commend the Department of Health & Human Services' landmark decision requiring health insurers to cover the full cost of contraception, with no co-pay, beginning in August 2012.

This policy places a much-needed importance on women's health that is too-often not a priority in health care policy. Birth control is a critical part of preventive care, and making contraception available to all women, regardless of their insurance or ability to pay for it, will significantly reduce long-term health care costs associated with unplanned pregnancies.

Please be sure to encourage the Obama administration to put pressure on the states to stop de-funding Planned Parenthood because other key forms of women's health care are still not going to be covered by the insurers. I applaud you, the Department of Health and Human Services, and my president for all of your work and I encourage you all to continue working towards making things right despite the hate, pressure and opposition I know you are facing.

As a young working woman in a committed relationship that would be unable to pay for my birth control methods without insurance I am so thankful for your efforts!
Thank you for prioritizing women's basic health care needs and for being brave and taking a real stance on this issue.

Keep standing strong.

Sincerely,

C. Cruz